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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Spring Birthing Season Starts Early at Frying Pan Park

It's cold. It's snowy. The wind is howling. But the spring birthing season at Frying Pan Park got off to a fine start late last week when Pam, a Hampshire sow, gave birth to three purebred piglets. The new arrivals braved the frigid temperatures and sub-zero wind chill that greeted site farmer Todd Brown when he checked on the sow Thursday, January 23. The piglets arrived before midnight, but there was more excitement yet to come.

By two in the morning, Heidi, a Hampshire ewe, delivered twin lambs, Henry and Heather. Only four nights later, Brown was forced to come back out in the cold to assist Ohee, a Yorkshire, Hampshire crossbred sow as she gave birth to eight piglets very early on January 27.

The mothers and babes are all doing fine. The public is invited to visit Heidi, Henry and Heather in the Kidwell Farm Barn. The pig families spend their first few weeks tucked away in a special shed called a farrowing house. Self-contained with its own heat and water, this little shelter protects the newborn two-pound piglets from the severe winter weather. Weather permitting, they'll be moved to the Kidwell Barn to greet visitors when they are three weeks old.

More arrivals are anticipated later this spring. Sheep, cows, pigs and goats are expecting. The complete birthing schedule can be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/fpp/kidwell.htm. For more information, contact Frying Pan Park at 703-437-9101. *Media Note: Digital photographs are available by contacting the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662.*

Frying Pan Park is located at 2709 West Ox Road in Herndon. Directions are as follows: Beltway exit 49 west (Rt. 66 west) to Rt. 50 west exit. Follow Rt. 50 west to right on Fairfax County Parkway until it meets West Ox Road. Turn left on West Ox Rd. and follow to the entrance on the right.

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FAIRFAX COUNTY IS COMMITTED TO A POLICY OF NONDISCRIMINATION IN ALL COUNTY PROGRAMS, SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES AND WILL PROVIDE REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS UPON REQUEST. TO REQUEST SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS, CALL 703-324-8563 OR TTY-703-324-3988. PLEASE ALLOW SEVEN WORKING DAYS IN ADVANCE OF EVENTS IN ORDER TO MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS.



VOICE: 703-324-8563 ❖ TTY: 703-324-3988 ❖ VISIT THE PARKS ONLINE: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks